



Vol. XII, No. 2

MARCH - APRIL, 1979

THE

ל'פנ"ד

# SHEKEL



Published by the AMERICAN ISRAEL NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION, INC.





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## AMERICAN ISRAEL NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

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### STATEMENT OF PURPOSE OF A.I.N.A.

The AMERICAN ISRAEL NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION is a cultural and educational organization dedicated to the study and collection of the numismatic aspects of Israel's coinage, past and present. It is a democratically organized, membership oriented group, chartered as a non-profit association under the laws of the State of New York.

As an educational organization, the primary responsibility is the development of programs, publications, meetings and other activities which will bring news, history, technical, social and related backgrounds to the study of numismatics. Membership is open to all men of goodwill and to clubs who share the common goals of the Association.

The Association is the publisher of THE SHEKEL, a six times a year journal and news magazine prepared for the enlightenment and education of the membership. It neither solicits or accepts advertising, paid or unpaid. Its views are the views and opinions of the writers and the pages and columns are open to all who submit material deemed by the editors to be of interest to the members.

The Association sponsors such major cultural/social/numismatic events as an annual Study Tour to Israel, national and regional conventions and such other activities and enterprises which will benefit the members. Dues are paid annually at \$8.00 per year; life memberships are offered to all at \$125.00 per year. Your interest and participation will be welcomed by any of the affiliated clubs or as a general member of the Association.

## The Editor's Drawer

In this issue Jack Garfield starts a new series on B'nai B'rith medals and tokens. Eventually a listing of chapter tokens and medals will be assembled through the **Shekel**.

Starting in the May-June issue, a regular column by board member Harry Flower on "American Tokens and Medals of Judaic Interest" will be published. Harry has been actively collecting this type of Judaic material for many years, along with a few hundred others I guess. I doubt if he will run out of material for this column and it should prove very informative.

The New York A.I.N.A. convention is just around the corner now. Your editor is looking forward to meeting many old and new friends. Remember, I invite all who have Judaic numismatic subjects they would like to write about to see me. The more material I have, the better it will be. Remember, it is just as easy to print a 48 page **Shekel** as a smaller one if the material is available.

See you next issue.

E.S.

EDWARD SCHUMAN, *Editor*

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Printed in the U. S. A.



# President's Message

Dear AINA member:

By the time you receive this issue of *The Shekel* and read this president's message, the AINA Eleventh Annual Study Tour to Israel will be in full swing. The tour left two days before *The Shekel* was mailed. To our surprise many festive occasions and events had been added to our itinerary as a result of the Jerusalem International Numismatic Meeting. There will be additional banquets and cocktail parties sponsored by various Israel banking institutions. For those who are not on the tour, all I can say is that you are missing a great event. Perhaps next year you will make arrangements to join with us on the Twelfth Annual Tour to Israel.



ARNOLD H. KAGAN

To those who have inquired regarding the tokens that AINA usually sends each year to its membership, these tokens were mislaid in Israel and delivery of these tokens was delayed. I wish to assure all AINA members that they will be receiving shortly the AINA New Years token as well as the New Years token issued by the IGCM. Please bear with us. Delivery will be made to you in all probability with the next edition of *The Shekel*.

This is a special reminder to all members who have not paid their dues. The membership rolls and the dues accounting have been computerized. This is the last *Shekel* you will be receiving if you have not paid your dues. The computer will eliminate all names of non-dues paying members from the mailing list before the next edition of *The Shekel*. As a result you will miss not only the next *Shekel* but you will not be receiving any of the two tokens that we should be sending with the next issue. Please send in your dues to the AINA office so that your name will be kept on our mailing

list. I repeat . . . *for those who fail to pay dues, this will be the last edition of The Shekel you will be receiving.*

AINA is disposing of its inventory of coins and medals. You will shortly be receiving information regarding a mail-bid auction of our coin and medal inventory which will be sponsored by the I.N.S. of Central Jersey for the benefit and the account of AINA INC. There are many interesting coins and medals in the lot, and we believe that the membership can use this auction as an opportunity to fill in on coins and medals they are missing from their collections.

With the last edition of *The Shekel* you received a list of publications and books that are available from AINA. These were offered at a special discount price to AINA members only. In addition, based upon the number of books purchased, you are entitled to a certain number of free books. I suggest you carefully examine this list. This is a golden opportunity to acquire books and publications that are very important to the collector of Israel numismatics.

We are preparing for your elections. The petitions are being circulated and nominations will be made. The ballots for these elections will go out during the early part of April.

Preparations are now being made for the American-Israel Numismatic Convention which will be held simultaneously with the Greater New York Coin Convention Ltd. on May 3-6, 1979 at the New York Sheraton Hotel in New York City. The annual membership meeting of A.I.N.A. will be held on Sunday, May 6, 1979 during our convention. All members are urged to attend. Please mark the dates of the convention and the meeting on your calendar.

Shalom,

Arnold H. Kagan



# A Twenty Years Old Numismatic Mystery Is Solved

By JOSEPH MEROZ

**I**N 1972, a well-known numismatic expert visited Teddy Kollek, the Mayor of Jerusalem, at his home. After chatting about various topics they came to a subject close to both their hearts: the coins of Israel.

The expert dealt professionally with Israeli coins and medals. Teddy Kollek was the man who introduced the idea of perpetuating on coins and medals events from the life of the State of Israel. Being the general manager of the Prime Minister's office in 1958, he gave the first impetus to implement this idea. Within the Committee which was established for this purpose, he was directly responsible for the minting of the first Israeli memorial coin on the Tenth Anniversary.

The Mayor put his entire "Collection", which was hidden in a tiny metal box, on



JOSEPH MEROZ

The discovery allowed the addition of the coin's description to the Kagan's Catalogue. Since then the existence of the coin has been publicized. After several articles on the subject, the interest in the issue has risen and as far as we know — the owners of all existing examples of the experimental pattern were found.

The last owner was identified two years ago. It is probable that today, six of these coins exist: four of them struck in a special tombac — gold alloy, one in silver—nickel and a last one in lead.

Each of the coins has its own story, one might say its "own world". But before telling their stories let me describe the differences between the experimental strike and the final coin of the "Tenth Anniversary".

The seven-armed Menorah appears on both coins almost over the entire surface. On the other surface "Israel" is written in Hebrew and Arabic on the upper section and on the lower section, the coin's value.



250 PRUTOT — TOMBAC



the table. The expert's eyes immediately focused on a strange unfamiliar coin. At first Teddy Kollek could not even remember how he had come to own this coin. He later remembered the experimental variation of the "Tenth Anniversary Coin" well known to all collectors. He also recalled that the chairman of the "Tenth Anniversary Committee" was allowed to keep an example of the coin as well.

The value of the first coin is 250 Prutot, and of the second, 5 Israeli Lirot. The date of the issue appears on the first above the inscription "Israel" and on the second, underneath it. 10 stars symbolizing the ten years of the State's existence were struck on the experimental coin. These stars are missing on the second coin. The diameter of the first is 32 mms, while the final mint is 34 mms.

It is possible that there are even more

differences, but the above mentioned ones suffice. Where are all those coins?

As mentioned before one of the tomhac-gild examples is owned by the Mayor of Jerusalem, and the second which belonged to the Head of the "Tenth Anniversary" Committee — appeared in the United States, where a well-known Israeli collector purchased it and it was returned to its homeland.

It appears from the various reports of people who saw the two coins that their surfaces are blemished by little pores, caused by exaggerated heat during minting.

A third coin was exhibited in the Tel-Aviv "Kadman Museum" during the entire period! Everybody who visited the Israeli coin exhibit in Ramat Aviv Quarter saw it. However its colour has darkened and its surface has absorbed dust, soot and dirt, changing its colour so much that it does not attract the visitor's eye and it is only noticed with effort.



5 ISRAEL LIROT 1958

This is perhaps the only explanation why the unique exemplar of the rare coin was exhibited day by day, hour by hour—something that has been an enigma coin to the Israeli collectors for many years.

Dr. Aryeh Kindler, the manager of the "Kadman Museum" needed quite some time before remembering how the Museum obtained the coin. It transpired that this third coin was transferred from the government's Mint—the official body responsible for the strike of the Israeli coins, and through whom coins (mainly gold ones) were ordered in foreign countries. These duties were later transferred to the Bank of Israel.

The third coin was unlucky, after a daring theft two years ago, it disappeared from the museum amongst other valuable coins and medals. Well informed people are of the opinion that the coin

wandered to the U.S.A. and was sold to a collector.

We came now to the fourth coin struck from tomhac. Its story is the most peculiar of them all.

After the six-day war a pleasant sun-burned young man went to the old city of Jerusalem. He was a security officer by profession but in his private life he was a "Coin-hunter". As he told us his family have been in the country for 15 generations — his forefathers came to the Holy Land from the remote Kurdistan.

He did not remember having seen this coin in the catalogue, but he understood immediately that he had found a very rare Jewish coin.

After a long a tiring customary bargaining with the Arab merchant, he paid for the coin with a 5 Lira note. The "hunter" brought his great spoil home and cleaned it of the thick dirt which covered it. He then realized that he possessed a beautiful coin in a dull gold colour with

a copper tint which was in quite good condition. He was tremendously happy and celebrated the event with his wife and three little children by opening a bottle of Arak.

Some questions about this coin still remain unanswered. How is it possible that an extremely rare experimental strike crossed the enemy's borders, from New Jerusalem (belonging then to Israel) to Old Jerusalem belonging to Jordan?

Even if we were to understand how the coin was smuggled, we would still have no explanation as to why the Arab dealer was excluded from the secret of the coin's rarity, its uniqueness raised it to the value of a real fortune.

We tried to weaken the confidence of the coin's owner by pointing out contradictions in his story. We showed him the lack of logic and the absurdity in his





## 250 PRUTOT SILVER

story, but he insisted on his version, without a minimal deviation from it. Considering his past and his way of telling the story, we got the impression that he was telling the truth, in his own mysterious way.

Two years ago a new prey chased the "coin-hunter". Due to an urgent need for cash he was forced to sell the coin to a well-known collector in Israel. This man wishes to remain unknown for understandable reasons. Everybody who knows him is sure that the special coin found a "good home" for many many years.

So we come to the fifth coin. This coin is different from the former ones in one important detail only, the kind of the metal it was made from. The first four coins were struck from tombac mixed with gold, this one looks at first sight as if made of an alloy of silver and nickel.

Nothing about the existence of this coin was known until last year — not even to the most well informed collectors.

The Bank of Israel's staff who are in charge of Israeli coins themselves did not know of its existence. The latest "KAGAN" Catalogue shows the coin and mentions 3-4 existing pieces in tombac only. How was this new coin discovered? It appears, that when in 1958, it was decided that the "Tenth Anniversary of Israel, - 250 Pruta" be shelved there were no official procedures as to shelving the coins. It was therefore relatively easy to hide some of them. It seems, that this coin, which was the rarest of all the "250 Pruta" coins, attracted the attention of someone with a developed sense for numismatics or for trade, and he had hidden it in his pocket. For valid reasons the man vowed a "sacrifice of silence" which was kept for a very long time.

His economic status failed and he was obliged to sell the fifth coin, the **ONLY EXISTING SPECIMEN** in the world. According to the report, he received a very large sum. Taking into consideration that he had to act through the underground we assume that he could get a much larger sum were he to sell openly to a collector.

The sixth coin was discovered just recently, and its uniqueness is that it is struck in lead. The coin is very shiny and it seems to be genuine. Experts say that every coin that is struck is tried in lead before it is produced in commercial quantities. If this is correct, then the owner of the lead-version possesses the first model of the first trial struck of the first Memorial Coin of the State of Israel.

No doubt, the great collectors of Israeli coins all over the world and especially in the U.S. would be prepared to pay enormous sums to complete their collections of the 250 Pruta coin from tombac. They do not even dare to dream of the silver-alloy or the lead one.

The fourth and fifth coins of tombac belong to the collection of A. H. Kagan, present President of A.I.N.A., and one of the greatest collectors of Israeli coins and medals. The circumstances of Mr. Kagan's purchasing of these coins may complete this article in the future.

The links in the chain of the first experimental strike have been found and clarified. It starts with the model of lead, continues with the tombac—the material which was supposed to be the metal of the first issue—and finally there is the silver-nickel alloy, which is the link with the future (non-gold) memorial coins of the State of Israel.

# The Midrash Coins

By D. BERNARD HOENIG

**D**ELVING INTO the pages of the Midrash is like diving into the sea off Sharm e-Sheikh. Beneath its crystal waters there lies a rainbow world of wonderous things. You swim about in silent search, hoping to find some ancient treasure, a relic from times gone by, a shard of new knowledge.

Preserved in writing during the 5th century, after two thousand years of oral transmission, the *Midrash Rabbah* — the earliest of the Midrashic literature — is composed of laws and customs, legends and traditions, philosophy and commentary. It is a veritable *cholent* of knowledge and wisdom, a magnificent mixture of different ingredients that has nurtured the Jewish people for many generations.



BERNARD HOENIG

No subject is excluded, no matter untouched. Even the realm of *The Coin* is discussed and debated, creating a most astounding challenge to numismatic history . . .

*"Rabbi Berekiah said in the name of Rabbi Helbo:*

*Abraham's coinage was current throughout the world."*

(Genesis Rabbah, 39:11)

Abraham's coinage? Undoubtedly such a seemingly anachronistic statement will be met with much resistance. According to all numismatic studies, the monetary system of the ancients was based upon the use of weights such as Shekels, Bekas or Talents. Coinage, in the sense of legal tender consisting of metallic disks with uniface or double designs, was first invented by the Ludians or Greeks in the 7th Century, B.C.E.

Abraham, on the other hand, lived 1,200 years before!

And yet both the Midrash and Talmud state:

*"What exactly was the coin of Abraham, our Patriarch?*

*An old man and an old woman on one side; a young man and a young woman on the other side."*

(Genesis Rabbah, 39:11 and Talmud Baba Kama, 97b)

Rashi, the renowned Biblical commentary of the 11th century, explained the designs to be representations of the elderly Abraham and his wife, Sarah, with their son, Isaac, and his wife, Rebecca, adorning the coin's reverse. Other sages suggest that all of the figures portray Abraham and Sarah, depicting them in their youth and old age.

Furthermore, numerous references in the Torah itself, strongly hint at the existence of such real coinage. When Abraham purchased the burial cave of Machpelah in Kiryat Arba (Hebron) he "weighed to Ephron, the Hittite . . . four hundred shekels of silver, *current money with merchants*" (Genesis 23:16). The latter phrase has been interpreted by all Biblical scholars to mean that Abraham utilized silver of uniform weight and shapes that were acceptable to merchants for the transaction of business. Considering that he was the head of a large tribe and even maintained an army of several hundred men, it is not surprising that Abraham's coins were recognized as legal tender, just like that of any small nation.

Rabbi Yaakov Culi, in his monumental biblical study, *"Meam Lo'ez"* (published in the Ladino dialect in 1730) stated that "Abraham was like a king of the entire civilized world . . . so great that he even minted a coin which was universally accepted as negotiable tender similar to coins struck by kings."

As a man of great wealth, possessing large amounts of silver and gold, Abraham undoubtedly converted his precious metals into some form that would simplify their trade and transportation. Although the Midrash contains no definitive statement as to the exact style of Abraham's



coinage, it is logical to assume that once the gold and silver were reduced to various shapes, the next step would have been to distinguish the coins — if only for reasons of security — by marking them with symbols or designs. This was a common practice of the times in connection with ancient seals used to attest to the veracity of documents or the ownership of storage jars.

As if the Midrashic statements concerning Abraham are not enough to unnerve the *numistorian*, further study of the very same section of the Midrash, Genesis Rabbah, reveals the existence of other Jewish coinage that predated, by several hundred years, what has always been thought to be the world's first coins.

- Joshua, the appointed successor of Moses, minted his own coins, depicting an ox on one side and a unicorn or wild ox on the reverse. These designs are derived from Moses' blessing of Joshua:

*"The firstling of his bullock will have glory, and his horns are the horns of unicorns; with them he shall push the nations together to the ends of the earth."*

(Deuteronomy, 33:17)

- According to Chronicles, King David's fame as a warrior, poet and noble leader was known throughout the world. The manifestation of that fame, states the Midrash, was David's own coin, showing a shepherd's staff and sack symbolizing his humble beginnings and, on the opposite side, the majestic palace tower representing his royalty.

- In the Book of Esther, describing the events of Purim, it is related that Mordechai's "*fame went throughout all of the provinces*". Again, this is interpreted by the Midrash to indicate that Mordechai struck his own coins and utilized them as trade currency. The designs on his coinage were: a golden crown on the obverse, signifying his ultimate role as Persian Viceroy; a sackcloth and ashes on the reverse, as a reminder of Haman's terrible decrees against the Jewish people.

Two hundred and fifty years ago the noted Judeo-Spanish scholar, Rabbi Yaa-

kov Culi, apparently anticipating a barrage of numismatic protests over these revelations, stated in *Meam Lo'ez*, "one may raise an objection here that since Abraham, Joshua and Mordechai were commoners, it was most unusual that they should strike their own coins. But what could be so unusual about David (the great King of Israel) minting a coin?"

According to the Midrashic commentary, *Yafeh Toar*, King David's coinage was actually accepted in other countries as legal tender. The Talmud, in Baba Kama (97b) also refers to "Coins of Jerusalem" minted after David's death, probably by his son, Solomon. These coins contained no images but merely the names, "David and Solomon" and "Jerusalem the Holy."

Adding to the fascination of these ancient Midrashim are the Aramaic or Hebrew words used to denote the coinage: "*Moneetin*" and "*Matbeyah*". *Moneetin* is a close relative of the Latin "*Moneta*" meaning a *place where coins are minted* and an obvious ancestor of the English words "money" or "mint". *Matbeyah* is the modern Hebrew and Talmudic appellation for "coin".

In rebuttal to the Midrashic disclosures, it will certainly be argued that the Midrash is classical homiletics, biblical interpretation, exposition with legends and folklore; that there is absolutely no archaeological or other documentary proof of the existence of such coins.

Serious scholars, however, do not hesitate to recognize the importance of such exposition in man's development. Very often the legends of the people, passed down through many generations, are found to be more reliable and accurate than retrospective writing or manipulation of the facts.

The Midrash, itself, is a work of major proportions, acknowledged by eminent Biblical experts of all faiths as the crystallization of thousands of years of oral tradition. It is, as the prestigious Encyclopedia Judaica states, "an account . . . the result of inquiry (examination, study and search) of the events of the times, i.e. *what is called history*."

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# The Milk and Egg Tokens of Gvat Kibbutz

By MENACHEM LEW-RAN

KIBBUTZ GWAT or GVAT or GEVAT — depending on how you spell the phonetic translation — was founded in 1926 by pioneers from the city of Pinsk in Poland. It is located in the Jezreel Valley in Northern Israel, and lies near the Nahalal-Afula Road.

|                                           |
|-------------------------------------------|
| גבת<br>קב' פועלים להתישבות שחופית<br>בע"מ |
| 61                                        |
| 5<br>ביצה<br>רק לשמוש פנימי               |
| 1947                                      |

|                                           |
|-------------------------------------------|
| גבת<br>קב' פועלים להתישבות שחופית<br>בע"מ |
| 145                                       |
| 50<br>ביצה<br>רק לשמוש פנימי              |
| 1947                                      |

prices due to the high costs of feeds and labor.

Since I arrived in Palestine in 1925, I remember there was always great discussions and criticism in the newspapers and in private conversation as to why Jewish people would purchase foodstuffs and other commodities from Arabs instead of purchasing them from the "TNUWA." The "TNUWA" cooperatives still exists in Israel today, and its purpose is to sell products of Jewish farmers.

The Kibbutz was originally an agricultural one, producing eggs, milk, chickens etc. In the early years, hard times had fallen economically on the Kibbutz due to price competition. Arab farmers sold their produce at much lower prices than did the Jewish farmers. Jewish farmers

|                                           |
|-------------------------------------------|
| גבת<br>קב' פועלים להתישבות שחופית<br>בע"מ |
| 113                                       |
| 10<br>ביצה<br>רק לשמוש פנימי              |
| 1947                                      |

|                                           |
|-------------------------------------------|
| גבת<br>קב' פועלים להתישבות שחופית<br>בע"מ |
| 127                                       |
| 100<br>ביצה<br>רק לשמוש פנימי             |
| 1947                                      |

purchased special foods and fertilizers for their production, most imported from the United States, for they were always striving to increase production, and create better grades of products.

The Arab farmer, for example let their chickens run loose to feed themselves from whatever grew wild in the fields. Thus the Arab farmer could sell eggs at 50 Mil for 25 eggs, while the Kibbutz simply could not compete with these

|                                           |
|-------------------------------------------|
| גבת<br>קב' פועלים להתישבות שחופית<br>בע"מ |
| 99                                        |
| 200<br>ביצה<br>רק לשמוש פנימי             |
| 1947                                      |

NUMBERED TOKENS ARE FOR EGGS



When Kibbutz Gwat was first established, the settlers lived in tents and make-shift dwellings. Later, they brought in workers from Haifa and commenced building houses. These workers were originally paid in cash, but as the Kibbutz was experiencing difficulties in selling its products, an arrangement was worked out where these workers were paid part cash, and part in food products. Paper tokens for this purpose were printed, and circulated as money. The workers were well satisfied with the arrangement, because the food products they received were of superior quality, and what they could not use themselves, they were able to resell to their friends in Haifa.

A multitude of tokens from this Kibbutz exist. The money tokens are in both mil and Israel lira denominations. Tokens for milk are known 1-5-10-30-50-100 Liters of milk. Egg tokens are known 5-10-50-100-200 dozen eggs. So you can see that many of the workers who built the buildings, were also in the wholesale produce business as well. The money tokens were used, when hard currency was not available. Supposedly they were redeemed when it was.

Today, in addition to agricultural produce, the Kibbutz has a plastic moulding plant, and several metal working facilities. About 800 Israelis call Kibbutz Gwat their home, where fifty years ago, all that existed was a large swamp.

#### MILK TOKENS



# HAYM SALOMON

By JACK L. BURMAN, L.M., 66



**H**AYM SALOMON, while not the only Jewish patriot that lavished his fortune in behalf of liberty and independence, he stands out unique as a figure in the history of the American Revolution.

This young Polish refugee of Jewish - Portuguese ancestry loaned the American government large sums of money without interest. Advances of more than \$20,000 to pay the salaries of government officials, and many additional advances to army officers and foreign agents for the outfitting of soldiers.

In 1781 he became an assistant to Robert Morris, Superintendent of Office of Finance, after serving in a similar capacity as broker and treasurer for the huge expenses of the French army stationed



JACK BURMAN

age and auctioneering house there with Jacob Mordecai. A Mason, Salomon was a major contributor in 1782 to the Congregation Mikveh Israel building in Philadelphia. He argued against a New Testament oath taken by office holders in Pennsylvania and worked for political rights of Jews.

He loaned Robert Morris, Continental Superintendent of Finance, more than \$350,000. He negotiated the war subsidies from France and Holland and when continental money was withdrawn he distributed \$2000.00 in specie to relieve distress among the poor of Philadelphia.

These liberal advances in specie and equally liberal investments in Revolutionary paper currency furnish an example of unselfish devotion to the American cause. It is remembered that the family was left practically penniless at his death.

A copy of an authentic certificate from the Registers Office in Philadelphia showed the amount of public securities and revolutionary papers left by the deceased.



in America. Morris characterized him as "useful to the public interest". Salomon also lent money without charge to members of the Continental Congress, among them James Madison, who recommended him as "our little friend on Front Street". In 1784 Salomon expanded his business activities to New York, opening a broker-

|                               |              |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| 58 Loan Office Certificates   | \$110,233.65 |
| 19 Treasury Certificates      | 18,259.50    |
| 2 Virginia State Certificates | 8,166.48     |
| 70 Commissioners Certificates | 17,870.37    |
| Continental Liquidated        | 199,214.45   |
| Seal                          | \$353,744.45 |



"I certify that the above writing is a true extract from the original inventory and appraisement of the personal estate of Haym Salomon deceased, filed in the Register's Office of Philadelphia on the 15th of February, 1785."

(Signed) John Geyer, Register

Salomon's heirs repeatedly attempted to collect their claim from Congress. Finally, they stated they had no wish to collect either the principal or interest. They asked only that their ancestor be commemorated with a medal.

At the second session of the 52nd Congress (Feb. 24, 1893) a bill was presented to the House, ordering that a gold medal be struck in recognition of services rendered by Haym M. Salomon during the Revolutionary War, in consideration of which the Salomon heirs would waive their claims upon the United States for indemnity. The measure was reported favorably by the House Committee on the Library, but too late for considera-

tion. The report (No. 2556 to accompany H.R. 7896) summarizes the efforts made in previous congresses, and reprints in full the Senate report to the 37th Congress.

The bill was never passed, the medal was never struck.

This neglected patriot was at long last honored with a medal. Paul Vincze, the "Dean of Medallists", was selected by the Jewish-American Hall of Fame to design this historic medal in 1976.

Around the portrait is the Biblical quote that expresses what Haym Salomon strived for throughout his life: PROCLAIM LIBERTY THROUGHOUT ALL THE LAND! The reverse contains an allegorical figure, representing the basic intellectual character of the American patriots who were ready not only to proclaim liberty but to fight for it. The exciting cavalry charge in the background helps to make this commemorative a masterpiece of medallistic art.



Statue of Haym Salomon, early American merchant and patriot, erected by the Jewish Federation Council of Greater Los Angeles, 1944.



SIDNEY OLSON

# ISRAEL DEFENSE FORCE PETROL COUPONS

By SIDNEY L. OLSON

As a follow-up to my last article, I reached into my Treasure Trove of Israel Numismatics & Syngraphics to find another item of Syngraphics.

Energy has always been an expensive commodity in Israel. After the 1967 War, with its boundaries expanded, the distances traveled by military vehicles were greater. It was not always possible to carry enough fuel for a complete journey. These coupons were issued to military personnel to obtain fuel not only at military bases but commercial stations.

This form of control was used not only to reduce waste, but to make drivers conscious of economies. Actually if one were to pay attention to the verbage on the printed piece it translates:

## SAVE PETROL TO AVOID SHORTAGES

CENTRAL DEPOT FOR PETROL  
(The issuing department)

COUPON FOR PETROL

70 71 (1970-1971)

Watch the Pump So You Don't Get Shorted

(In the left box)

WATCH FOR ACTUAL AMOUNT DELIVERED

(1-3-5-10-15)

LITERS

Please note there are 3 admonitions:

1. Economize when possible.
2. Don't get cheated (or get the IDF cheated).
3. A repeat in other words of 2.

To the writer, a whole story is told of the efforts the IDF was going through in the post-1967 War era to conserve on energy within its controls.





# Israel's Patterns, Trial Pieces and Rejected Designs (A SERIES)

PART 3 — Continued from Jan.-Feb. 1979 Issue

By SYLVIA HAFNER

## COMMEMORATIVE COIN-MEDALS PATTERNS

Upon the opening of the Israel Mint in Tel-Aviv in 1954, the Israel Numismatic Society suggested an issue of coin-medals to commemorate the event. The idea was given to the Advisory Committee for the Designs of Coins, Commemorative Coins, and Banknotes, which at that time was attached to the Israel Government Printing Office, headed by Mr. S. Golan, the Government Printer.



SYLVIA HAFNER

The coin-medals were proposed for propaganda and presentation pieces. The Bank of Israel became the issuing authority in December of 1954 and after discussing the idea with the Bank, the proposal was dropped in order not conflict with the Bank of Israel's plan to issue commemorative coins.

The dies were made by the Netherlands State Mint in Utrecht and according to Dr. J. W. A. van Hengel, Mint Master, plaster models, dies and 12 sets of specimens were sent to Mr. Golan, Government Printer, in October 1954. The Utrecht Mint presented to the Kadman Numismatic Museum in Tel-Aviv a set of the enlarged bronze medals (150 mm).

Dr. Leo Kadman, who was a member of the Advisory Committee presented the Kadman Museum a set of the cupro-nickel strikes. The designs of the proposed coin-medals were selected to represent the ancient Jewish symbols on one side and the modern designs that appeared on the Pruta series.



Diameter: 25.5 mm. Weight: 7.60 grs.  
Cupro-Nickel

### OBV.:

In center, seven-branched palm tree, with two clusters of dates; in ancient Hebrew script, "JERUSALEM"; the edge is beaded. This design was taken from the Bar-Kochba War (132-135 A.D.).

### REV.:

In center, a modified seven-branched palm tree with two clusters of dates; around the rim in Hebrew, "THE RENEWAL OF ISRAEL'S MINT"; below, the date "3892", (the year 132 A.D. when the Bar-Kochba War began); and the year "5714" (the year of issue); the edge is beaded with smaller beads than the obverse.



Diameter: 23 mm. Weight: 5.60 grs.  
Cupro-nickel

### OBV.:

In the center, a vine-leaf with tendrils; in ancient Hebrew script, "FOR THE FREEDOM OF JERUSALEM"; the edge is beaded. This design was taken from the Jewish-Roman War (66-70 A.D.).

REV.:

In the center, a vine-leaf with a cluster of grapes in a modified form; around the rim, in Hebrew, "THE RENEWAL OF ISRAEL'S MINT"; below, the Hebrew dates "3892" and "5714"; the edge is beaded.



Diameter: 19.5 mm. Weight: 2.50 grs.  
Cupro-nickel

OBV.:

In the center, a cluster of grapes with a vine-leaf; in ancient Hebrew script "YEAR ONE FOR THE REDEMPTION OF ISRAEL"; the edge is beaded. This design was taken from the Bar-Kochba War (132-135 A.D.).

REV.:

In the center, cluster of grapes with tendril and vine in a modified form; around the rim, in Hebrew, "THE RENEWAL OF ISRAEL'S MINT"; below, the Hebrew dates "3892" and "5714"; the edge is beaded.



Diameter: 19.5 mm. Weight: 2.50 grs.  
Cupro-nickel

A variety of this coin-medal exists in the Kadman Museum; the reverse was struck with the 1949 25 Pruta die, showing the bunch of grapes and the Hebrew and Arabic inscriptions of the word, ISRAEL., the obverse die used was the same as described above # 3.

### ISRAEL LIBERATA, 1958 TEST STRIKE

This is a test strike of the 1958 Israel Liberata dies. It was struck on scrap metal very thin and about 40 mm. As you will note the entire edge design on

both obverse and reverse are missing. Perhaps they were only interested in the centers of the medal. It is the exact die as on the Israel Liberata struck in 1958. (SM-1b)



### JUDEA CAPTA-ISRAEL LIBERATA, PATTERN MEDALS, 1958

Copper and one pewter pattern pieces of this medal came to light in 1972. They vary from 42 mm. to 47 mm. and from 4 mm. to 5 mm. thick. This is the 1st Medal of Liberation and was offered for sale in silver and gold by the Tenth Anniversary Committee in Israel. I have received five photographs from collectors, and they all seem to be from the same dies. Some are a little cruder than other, but from what I have heard a few of the pieces were also carried as pocket pieces and have seen some wear. Shall list them as they came to me. Other may exist.

| No. | Metal  | Diam. |        | Width |
|-----|--------|-------|--------|-------|
|     |        | mm.   | gm.    |       |
| 1.  | copper | 47    | 61.96  | 5 mm. |
| 2.  | pewter | 47    | 61.98  | 5 mm. |
| 3.  | copper | 47    | 62.58  | 5 mm. |
| 4.  | copper | 42    | 52.08  | 4 mm. |
| 5.  | copper | 42    | 62.075 | 5 mm. |



### ISRAEL LIBERATA UNIFACE, PATTERN MEDAL, 1958

The medal depicts the reverse only, the Judea Capta side with the obverse being blank. The medal is struck in copper-nickel and is 61.08 mm. A die-crack extends from the base of the tree to just below the edge of the coin design. This



**SILVER POLISHED**



**BALLOONS**



**BUMPS**



die crack can be found in many of the copper issues. This has lead us to wonder why they were testing an old die on copper-nickel. One authority states, "they wanted to know if the die-crack was too bad to use again." (SM-1b)



## ISRAEL LIBERATA PLUGGED DIES, 1958

This medal was struck because the first Judaea Capta-Israel Liberata medal by

the Tenth Anniversary Committee was sold out. The medal was also such a success that after the original maximum quantity of 25,000 pieces were sold the dies were cancelled by drilling holes in them. When the requests came in for the medal in 1960 it was decided to use the cancelled dies. When they struck the medals they found the metal flowed into the holes causing "bumps" of metal where the holes were. They then decided to plug the holes which resulted in the variety known as "balloons".

In 1961 they decided to strike the medal in 59 mm. silver but the only dies available were the plugged dies. They struck 386 pieces in silver with these cancelled dies until the new dies were delivered. The silver medals were polished over the "plugs" trying to make them smooth!

This is the only instance of the Israel Government extending their issue beyond the maximum quantity announced with the bronze strike of 533 pieces including both bumps and balloons. Tried to see the cancelled dies while in Jerusalem but was unable to "visit" them.

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[illegible]

1

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**THE**  
**FIELD**  
**OF**  
**THE**  
**ARTS**  
**AND**  
**LETTERS**

Announcement of the opening of the original subscription list for shares in the Jewish Colonial Trust, London, 1899. Courtesy Central Zionist Archives, Jerusalem.



# Document of Faith – JEWISH COLONIAL TRUST, 1899

By FRANZ FRANKL

**D**R. THEODORE HERZL dreamed of a Jewish Company. Something like the East Indian Co., to "... acquire any concessions, grants, decrees, rights and privileges preferably in Palestine or any other part of the world ..."

Upon insistence of David Wolffson, the first and Second Zionist Congress debated and decided to establish an independent financial institution "... to develop colonization, the natural resources, industries of the country and to create working opportunities ...". On March 20, 1899 the JCT was chartered in London. Capitalization was in English Pounds 2 Million, divided into 100 Founders' Shares and 1,999,900 Common Shares both at English Pound 1.—. The Founders' Shares were later vested in the bodies of the Zionist Organization.

At the turn of the century one English Pound was a great amount of money. More so for the poor Jewish masses of the East who bought the shares not as an investment but as ardent "Lovers of Zion". It was for them a ray of hope, that Erez Israel will be reborn. In 1902 the "statutory" capital of a quarter Million Pound Sterling was finally collected. The Fifth Zionist Congress immediately founded the Anglo-Palestine Company to function as a bank in Palestine; Branch offices were opened, before WW I, in Jaffa - Jerusalem - Haifa - Tiberias - Safed - Hebron - Gaza and Beyruth (under the Turks Palestine was a part of Syria). Within a decade the Anglo-Palestine Bank (APAK) was THE financial force of the Yishuv.

In 1905 the JCT opened its only branch in Whitechapel, the quarter of the Jewish "poor" in London. Twelve years later the English battalion of the Jewish Legion — the "taylor's" — was recruited in Whitechapel. The main activity of the JCT, besides holding the capital of the APAK, was the floating of Palestine oriented issues, and to finance the program of the

never "realized" Jewish Company. After WW I JCT invested in several Jewish banks in Eastern Europe. Because of the political instability, it suffered a loss of almost half a million Sterlings. In 1934 all the banking business was transferred to the APAK, its daughter company. Profits on the APAK shares later on enabled the JCT to recover its loss. From then on it was solely a Holding Company of APAK shares.

December 5, 1955 the value of the JCT shares was reduced from Engl.Pound 1.— to sh 2/6, a respective notification is pasted in English and Hebrew on the back of the shares.

The certificate 340 x 180 mm has the Mogen David with JCT initials and one vignette in every corner. Text on the Face is in English and lists in a special box "the members of 'The First Administration Of 1899 (5959)' directors, governors and council members. Below that box is the usual text of a stock certificate. This is repeated in Hebrew to the right of the English text. The reverse does not list the names again, refers instead to the face and repeats the text in German-Russian-French. The Founders' shares are one Certificate No. 1a dated March 21, 1901. This certificate differs from the common insofar that the Vignette is straight, not across the corners, and the Mogen David is eliminated. A box with the names and addresses of the 21 Founders is part of the English text; there is no Hebrew text. The common is usually signed by the secretary and one director, some shares around 1901 have also the signature of Wolffson. The Founders' share certificate has the signatures of the secretary and four directors.

In the 1940's the name was changed to OTZAR HITYASHVUTH HAYEHU-DIM, Jewish Colonial Trust Ltd., dropping the German "Judische Colonial Bank" from the title. New certificates 368 x 250 mm were printed in Britain

and issued to subsequent new shareholders. The box with the members of the First Administration is gone, the logo was changed into OHH. With lesser text on a larger certificate one can now clearly discern the map of Biblical Palestine as the background of the certificates. The JCT certificate has the same background, the few existing (1901) Jewish colonies marked by a Mogen David. On the OHH certificate the territories of the Tribes of Israel and three cities Jerusalem - Haifa - Tel-Aviv are marked.

The vignettes symbolize the goals of the bank. Reading clockwise from the upper right: farmer in the field — colonization, seaport — natural resources, factory — creating of jobs. The fourth vignette is the Wailing Wall which has a special meaning. Herzl heads the list of the Council members, the remaining 19 names read like the Honor Scroll of the Jewish National movement. Almost to a man they opposed the Uganda Project. After WW I most of them sharply criticized Dr. Weitzman for his "give in" policy to the British. They were old fighters who had realized long ago that only with the active participation of Western Jewry could Palestine be reborn.

Jewish nationalism was born in Eastern Europe, one of the two centers of Jewish culture. Fighting a two-front war — the Russians and the Chassidims (who went to the Holy Land to wait for the Messiah) — writers and poets like Gordon, Lilienblum, Pinsker, Smolensky showed the way to a National Home. The pioneers of the BILU movement built the first colonies in Palestine.

The second cultural center was Germany and Austria. The 1871 victory over France led to an immense industrial expansion. The re-emancipated Jews embraced everything called "liberal". Assimilation was rampant, Judaism was viewed as nothing more than an antiquated superstition which had best been abandoned altogether. Anything reminiscent of Eastern Jewry was ridiculed. Austria was a monarchy of "many nations"; the Jews thought of themselves as Germans, even tried to associate with the

"Grossdeutsche" circles, which later were the forerunners of the Nazis. Assimilation created the modern political anti-semitism, a new word for an old hatred.

In 1881 the Czar of Russia was murdered by Nihilists. Official Russia spread the rumor that the Jews were the murderers. For almost two years thousands of Jews were killed in organized pogroms. The world protested in vain. After the pogroms died down the "Alliance" Paris and "Allianz" Vienna worked out a plan for an "orderly" emigration of some 20,000 Jewish refugees. EVERY precaution was taken that not a single Jewish refugee should come into Austria, Germany or France . . . this was "orderly" !!!!

Moritz Schnierer, Oser Kokesch are number two and three on the list of the Council members; coming from Eastern Europe they founded 1882 in Vienna the A. V. Kadimah, the first Jewish National Student Organization. On March 23, 1883 the official approval was posted on the blackboard of the Vienna University. The next morning the Kadimah posted a proclamation on the blackboard calling on all Jewish students to join their ranks; within minutes the proclamation was torn down . . . by Jews. Disdain and abuse was heaped on the few members of the Kadimah. But they went their way! In the first semester the Kadimah arranged a public Maccahean celebration, marking Hanukkah a national feast. Western born students soon joined the Kadimah, other Jewish student organizations were formed in Vienna, all of them later on became Zionist Fraternities. If the resistance in Austria was adversary the founding of the Kadimah had a worldwide echo. All over Western Europe and wherever there was a university in the monarchy national Jewish student organizations sprung up.

Students are the banner bearers of every revolution. Herzl returned from Paris disappointed by the refusal of Rothschild and the other "mightys" with his concept of a "Jewish Company". He wrote DER JUDENSTAAT. By mere chance the first printer's copy came into the hands of the Kadimah. Schnierer and Kokesch tried



|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Übersetzung</b></p> <p><b>The Jewish Colonial Trust</b><br/>(Juedische Colonialbank) Limited<br/>Incorporated in England</p> <p>Capital: £ 2,500,000 - eingeteilt in 250,000 Aktien<br/>Aktien im Nennwerte von je £ 10 - und 100 Centesimale<br/>Aktien ebenfalls im Nennwerte von je £ 1</p> <p>Deposits: für jeden Betrag - Deposits: für jeden Betrag<br/>Ausschüttungen: Dividenden - Ausschüttungen: Dividenden<br/>Befugnisse: der Verwaltung - Befugnisse: der Verwaltung<br/>Gesamt: Summe - Gesamt: Summe</p> <p>Der Inhalt dieses Zertifikats ist zu bezeugen<br/>Juedische Colonialbank Limited, in London, am 10. März 1914</p> | <p><b>ПЕРЕВОДЪ</b></p> <p>Англо-русское Общество "Еврейская Колониальная Банкъ"</p> <p>Following the Resolution of the Capital of the Company, confirmed by Order of the High Court of Justice (England), dated the Twentieth 1913 each of the Shares represented by the Share Warrants, Certificate has been reduced from £1 to 2/6d.</p> <p>The Capital of the Company is now divided into 15,000,000 ordinary Shares of 2/6d each and 100 Preference Shares of £1 each.</p> <p>Капитал общества разделен на 15,000,000 обыкновенных акций по 2/6д каждая и 100 привилегированных акций по £1 каждая.</p> | <p><b>Traduction</b></p> <p><b>The Jewish Colonial Trust</b><br/>(Juedische Colonialbank) Limited</p> <p>Capital: Livre sterling: 2,500,000 - divisé en 250,000 actions de 1 Livre sterling et 100 parts de fondement de 1 Livre centime.</p> <p>Statuts de la Société d'Administration de 1904-1905<br/>Dividendes des Actions: payés annuellement le 15 Mars de chaque année<br/>Bénéfices: payés annuellement le 15 Mars de chaque année<br/>Général: Summe - Général: Summe</p> <p>Le présent titre est un prospectus de la Société d'Administration de la Livre sterling: 2,500,000 - divisé en 250,000 actions de 1 Livre sterling et 100 parts de fondement de 1 Livre centime.</p> |
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to influence Herzl to lead them on. Herzl, himself a former fraternity student, finally came to the "Bude" (home) of the Kadimah . . . every single Jewish national student was present. The tremendous ovation that greeted Herzl finally convinced him to take on the political leadership. One year later the First Zionist Congress was convoked.

Schnierer and Kokesch are but two of

the council members. Coming from different background and Jewish cultures, they ALL had one thing in common — FAITH. This is the meaning of the Walling Wall vignette.

Since the first week at the University of Vienna, the author had the honor to be a member of A. V. Kadimah. Out of 180 members 14 Kadimahners are still alive today.

# B'nai B'rith Medals

## PART 1

By JACK GARFIELD

Over half million Jewish men, women and youth belong to B'nai B'rith, making it the largest Jewish service organization in the world. The organization was founded in 1843 by 12 men who met in a cafe on the lower east side of New York to establish a fraternal order for American Jews who then numbered around 15,000 people.

The founders chose the name B'nai B'rith (sons of the Covenant) as the name of the new organization, and the Menorah as its symbol. The preamble to its constitution reads as follows:

*"B'nai B'rith has taken upon itself the mission of uniting persons of the Jewish faith in the work of promoting their highest interests and those of humanity; of supporting science and the arts; of developing and elevating the mental and moral character of the people of our faith; of inculcating the purest principles of philanthropy, honor, and patriotism; alleviating the wants of the poor and needy; visiting and attending the sick; coming to the rescue of victims of persecution; providing for, protecting and assisting the widow and orphan on the broadest principles of humanity."*

In 1865 a substantial grant was made to the cholera sufferers in Eretz Israel. When the large mass immigration poured into America from Eastern Europe at the end of the 19th century, B'nai B'rith sponsored trade schools, educational programs and relief assistances. In 1897, the ladies auxiliary chapters were established. The

first B'nai B'rith Hillel foundation was established in 1923 to serve the religious, cultural and social needs of college students.



JACK GARFIELD

Although founded in the United States, B'nai B'rith is a worldwide organization. The first lodge founded outside the United States was in Germany in 1882. A dozen European countries are the homes of sixty different chapters today.

B'nai B'rith has always taken an active interest in Israel. It promotes the sale of Israel Bonds, supports the B'nai B'rith Martyrs' forest near Jerusalem, and is active in all Israel related projects.

There have been three State Medals struck by the Israel Government to honor B'nai B'rith. These are described in this article.

Many B'nai B'rith lodges have struck medals commemorating their existence, or other special occasions. I would like to assemble a list of B'nai B'rith medals. If all who possess these items would write to me, describing the medals, a photograph of the medal, if possible, we can publish a regular column in the Shekel on this important phase of Judaic Numismatics.

Please write to Jack Garfield  
P.O. Box 630584  
Ojus, Fla. 33163



### B'NAI B'RITH, STATE MEDAL-3

Was struck during the Tenth Anniversary Year in honor of the World Convention of the Order of B'nai B'rith, which took place in Jerusalem in May of 1959. By holding its convention in the capital of Israel, this great Jewish brotherhood testified that its Order recognizes the unity of the Jewish people centered upon Israel.



#### OBVERSE

In the upper center, the emblem of the Tenth Anniversary which is made up of the word "Israel" in Hebrew, the numeral "10" and a seven-branched Menorah. Beneath, in large lettering, "Tenth Anniversary of Israel's Independence" in Hebrew, and the Hebrew year of issue "5719". Around the rim, in English, "Israel's Tenth Anniversary Year, 1958-1959."



#### REVERSE

In the upper center, once more a seven-branched Menorah, and below it, "World Convention of B'nai B'rith" in Hebrew, and the Hebrew month and year "Iyar 5719" and the corresponding date, "May 25-29, 1959" in English. Around the rim, "B'nai B'rith Convention" in English.

### B'NAI B'RITH, 1959 COMMISSIONED MEDAL-1

This medal was officially commissioned for the World Convention of B'nai B'rith in 1959, in Jerusalem. This is a special edition that was presented to the delegates and not issued for sale.

OBVERSE — Reverse of SM-3



#### REVERSE

In the upper center, the emblem of the Tenth Anniversary which is made up of the word "Israel" in Hebrew, the numeral "10", and a seven-branched Menorah. Below, in English, the inscription in ten lines, "Presented by the Government of Israel Tenth Anniversary Committee to (space for name) Delegate to the B'nai B'rith Convention Jerusalem May 25-29, 1959."

### B'NAI B'RITH, 1965 COMMISSIONED MEDAL-20

This medal was officially commissioned by the committee for the B'nai B'rith World Convention and presented by the Minister of Tourism to the members of the Order.



#### REVERSE

On the top, the emblem of the State. Beneath in English, the inscription, "Presented by the Minister of Tourism to (blank space) Delegate to the B'nai B'rith Convention" in eight lines of raised letters.



#### OBVERSE

In the center, a seven-branched candelabrum, with candles, within an incuse rectangle. Around the candelabrum, the Hebrew inscription, "May 23-27, 1965 B'nai B'rith World Convention," in incuse letters. Around the rim, in raised letters the inscription in English "B'nai B'rith Triennial Convention Israel May 23-27, 1965."

# 7th GREATER NEW YORK COIN CONVENTION

Held Simultaneously with the Convention of  
THE AMERICAN ISRAEL NUMISMATIC ASSN.

**MAY 3rd - 6th, 1979**

NEW YORK SHERATON HOTEL  
7th Avenue at 56th Street  
New York City

## PROGRAM

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 2, 1979

- 12:00 Noon Security Room Opens
- 7:00 P.M. NASCA JUDAICA AUCTION—Manhattan Skyline Room

### THURSDAY, MAY 3, 1979

- 9:00 A.M. Dealers and Exhibitors Set-up
- 10:30 A.M. Registration Opens
- 11:00 A.M. Bourse and Exhibits Open to Public
- 11:00 A.M. Security Room Closes
- 2:00 P.M. STACK'S AUCTION—Manhattan Skyline Room
- 7:00 P.M. STACK'S AUCTION—Manhattan Skyline Room
- 8:30 P.M. Registration Closes
- 9:00 P.M. Closing of Bourse and Exhibits

### FRIDAY, MAY 4, 1979

- 8:00 A.M. A.I.N.A. Board of Directors Board Meeting—Board Room
- 9:30 A.M. Bourse Area Open to Dealers Only
- 9:30 A.M. Registration Opens
- 10:00 A.M. Bourse and Exhibits Open to Public
- 2:00 P.M. STACK'S AUCTION—Manhattan Skyline Room
- 7:00 P.M. STACK'S AUCTION—Manhattan Skyline Room
- 8:30 P.M. Registration Closes
- 9:00 P.M. Closing of Bourse and Exhibits

### SATURDAY, MAY 5, 1979

- 9:30 A.M. Bourse Area Open to Dealers Only
- 9:30 A.M. Registration Opens
- 10:00 A.M. Bourse and Exhibits Open to Public
- 10:00 A.M. Young Numismatists—Oriental Room  
Chairperson: Florence Schook
- 11:00 A.M. Educational Forum—Manhattan Skyline Room  
Moderator: Ed Janis  
Guest Speakers: George Hatie, David Hendin, Ed Schuman



## **SATURDAY, MAY 5 (Continued)**

- 1:00 P.M. STACK'S AUCTION—Manhattan Skyline Room  
2:00 P.M. GENA Board of Directors Meeting—Board Room  
3:00 P.M. METAMS—Classroom  
3:00 P.M. A.I.N.A. Tour Reunion—Park Sheraton Suite  
5:30 P.M. Registration Closes  
6:00 P.M. Closing of Bourse and Exhibits  
7:00 P.M. Gala Reception—Manhattan Skyline Room  
8:00 P.M. Banquet—Corinthian Room—26th Floor

## **SUNDAY, MAY 6, 1979**

- 9:30 A.M. Registration Opens  
9:30 A.M. Bourse Area Open to Dealers Only  
10:00 A.M. Bourse and Exhibits Open to Public  
10:30 A.M. Young Numismatists—Special Meeting—Oriental Room  
11:00 A.M. A.I.N.A. General Membership Meeting  
for members only—Manhattan Skyline Room  
1:00 P.M. I.N.S. of Long Island 10th Anniversary  
Luncheon—Manhattan Skyline Room  
4:00 P.M. Closing of Bourse and Exhibits  
5:00 P.M. Convention Closes

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SAMUEL LACHMAN

# Egyptian Coinage Used In Palestine 1917 - 1927

## PART 3

Continued from Jan.-Feb. 1979 Issue

By SAMUEL LACHMAN, Haifa

### THE COINS OF HUSSEIN KAMIL

At the outbreak of World War I, the Egyptian Khedive Abbas Hilmi Pasha sided with the Turks and fled to Istanbul. Egypt was declared a British Protectorate on 18 December 1914. The Khedive was formally deposed by Britain. Hussein Kamil, a son of the khedive Ismail, was declared Sultan of Egypt on 1 Safar 1333/19 December 1914 (15). Sultan Hussein Kamil died on 23 Dhu al-Hijja 1335/9 October 1917.

The coinage of Egypt remained unchanged until 1916. However, the many British and Imperial troops caused a heavy demand for coins. British silver coins in the amount of £ 930 000 were forwarded for use of the Army Paymaster in Egypt (16). The British sovereign continued to be legal tender in Egypt. By a decree of 2 Jumada al-aula 1334/6 March 1916, the Indian rupee was declared legal tender in Egypt. The Indian rupee continued to circulate in Egypt until 18 Rajab 1338/7 April 1920 (18).

By a decree of 18 October 1916 and a decree of the same date, the Ochr-el-guerche was changed to millieme, i.e. one Egyptian pound = 100 piastres = 1000 milliemmes. The law also authorized the striking of coins in the name of the sultan.

The alloy used for the coins is the same as that used for the coins of Ottoman Egypt. The diameters and weights of the gold and silver coins remained unchanged. The following coins were authorized:

| <i>Gold:</i> | <i>Silver:</i> |
|--------------|----------------|
| 100 piastres | 20 piastres    |
| 50 piastres  | 10 piastres    |
|              | 5 piastres     |
|              | 2 piastres     |

#### *Copper-Nickel:*

|               |       |       |
|---------------|-------|-------|
| 10 milliemmes | 26 mm | 6.0 g |
| 5 milliemmes  | 23 mm | 5.0 g |
| 2 milliemmes  | 20 mm | 4.0 g |
| 1 millieme    | 18 mm | 3.0 g |

#### *Bronze:*

|            |       |       |
|------------|-------|-------|
| ½ millieme | 20 mm | 3.5 g |
|------------|-------|-------|

All coins with the exception of the 50 piastres gold coin were minted.

The gold, silver, and bronze coins were designed by John Harvey Rowntree M.B.E. of the Egyptian Survey Office at Giza (19). The copper-nickel coins were the work of Hamid Effendy Sirry of the Government Assay Office, Egypt.

The initials of John Harvey Rowntree "JHR" conjoint appear on the gold coin incuse on the Arabic letter "T" of "Al-Sultan" on the obverse (Fig. 28). On the silver coins struck at Bombay, the letters "HR" occur in relief on the knot at the bottom of the obverse (Fig. 29). The bronze ½ millieme coin shows the letters "HR" incuse on the Arabic letter "N" of Hussein (Fig. 30). The silver coins struck at Birmingham do not show the engraver's initials. No initials appear on the copper-nickel coins. The inscriptions of the coins are partly bi-lingual. The obverse of the gold, silver, and bronze coins has the Arabic inscription:

*The Sultan  
Hussein  
Kamil  
1333*

1333 being the accession year of the sultan. The reverse of the gold coin has in center the Arabic inscription: "The Sultanate of Egypt." Above in Arabic, and



below in English is the denomination. At the bottom is the year 1916, and 1335 in Arabic. The silver and bronze coins have the same central inscription on the reverse, but the denomination in both languages appears below. The date is at the bottom as on the gold coin. The copper-nickel 10 and 5 milliemes coins have on the obverse at top the Arabic inscription: "Hussein Kamil", at the sides 1916 (or 1917) and below in Arabic:

*Sultan  
of Egypt  
1333*

The reverses show the denominations in both languages.

The 2 and 1 milliemes coins have on the obverse the Arabic inscription:

*Hussein  
Kamil  
13 35  
Sultan  
of Egypt  
1333*

The reverses show the denominations in English and Arabic.

The coins were struck at the Indian Government Mint at Bombay, at the Indian Government Mint at Calcutta, by "The Mint", Birmingham, and by the Kings Norton Metal Company, Birmingham. The silver coins struck by the Mint, Birmingham, differ from those struck at Bombay. The inner plain circle is missing, the numerals are different, and the outer circle is composed of half beads. Only the coins struck at Birmingham have mint marks. "H" for the "Mint", and "KN" for the Kings Norton Metal Company (Fig. 31). They are found at the bottom of the reverses. The gold and silver coins are reeded.

The mintage tables are based on the description by Fred Pridmore (20), and the "Annual Reports of the Deputy Master and Comptroller of the Mint, London. Attention is drawn to the fact that the year which appears on the coins is not in all cases the actual year of minting. Coins in the name of Hussein Kamil were struck after his death until 1921. The Mint, Birmingham struck coins with dates 1916

and 1917. The London Mint Report does not show any minting at Birmingham in 1916. Sylvia Haffner (21) has a mintage of 3 300 000 coins for 1916H. Uncirculated presentation sets in a case with a crown and the monogram of Sultan Hussein Kamil on the outer cover, exist. They contain the 10 coins of the 1916/17 set. The coins are not in proof condition.

### Mintage

Remark: Birmingham means in the tables "The Mint", Birmingham.

| Struck at                           | In   | Year On<br>Coins | Mintage   |
|-------------------------------------|------|------------------|-----------|
| <b>Gold 100 piastres (Fig. 32)</b>  |      |                  |           |
| Bombay                              | 1916 | 1916             | 10 001    |
| <b>Silver 20 piastres (Fig. 33)</b> |      |                  |           |
| Bombay                              | 1916 | 1916             | 1 500 000 |
|                                     | 1917 | 1917             | 840 395   |
| <b>Silver 20 piastres (Fig. 34)</b> |      |                  |           |
| Birmingham                          | 1917 | 1917             | 160 500   |
|                                     | 1918 | 1917             | 89 500    |
| <b>Silver 10 piastres (Fig. 35)</b> |      |                  |           |
| Bombay                              | 1916 | 1916             | 2 900 041 |
|                                     | 1917 | 1917             | 3 369 143 |
|                                     | 1918 | 1917             | 1 490 127 |
| <b>Silver 10 piastres (Fig. 36)</b> |      |                  |           |
| Birmingham                          | 1917 | 1917             | 1 223 000 |
|                                     | 1918 | 1917             | 777 000   |
| <b>Silver 5 piastres (Fig. 37)</b>  |      |                  |           |
| Bombay                              | 1916 | 1916             | 6 000 043 |
|                                     | 1917 | 1917             | 7 338 213 |
|                                     | 1918 | 1917             | 1 180 016 |
| <b>Silver 5 piastres (Fig. 38)</b>  |      |                  |           |
| Birmingham                          | 1917 | 1917             | 4 452 000 |
|                                     | 1918 | 1917             | 548 000   |
| <b>Silver 2 piastres (Fig. 39)</b>  |      |                  |           |
| Bombay                              | 1916 | 1916             | 2 504 614 |
|                                     | 1917 | 1917             | 2 504 581 |
|                                     | 1918 | 1917             | 1 956 645 |
| <b>Silver 2 piastres (Fig. 40)</b>  |      |                  |           |
| Birmingham                          | 1919 | 1917             | 2 180 000 |
| <b>Copper-Nickel 10 milliemes</b>   |      |                  |           |
| Bombay                              | 1916 | 1916             | 1 007 400 |
| Birmingham                          | 1916 | 1916             | 1 000 000 |
| Bombay                              | 1917 | 1917             | 1 011 399 |
| Birmingham                          | 1917 | 1917             | 1 000 000 |
|                                     | 1918 | 1917             | 3 000 000 |
|                                     | 1919 | 1917             | 2 000 000 |
|                                     | 1920 | 1917             | 5 000 000 |
| King's Norton                       | 1920 | 1917             | 252 000   |
|                                     | 1921 | 1917             | 3 748 000 |

| Struck at                                  | in   | Year On<br>Coins | Mintage    |
|--------------------------------------------|------|------------------|------------|
| <b>Copper-Nickel 5 Milliemes (Fig. 42)</b> |      |                  |            |
| Bombay                                     | 1916 | 1916             | 3 000 050  |
| Birmingham                                 | 1916 | 1916             | 3 000 000  |
| Bombay                                     | 1917 | 1917             | 5 903 536  |
|                                            | 1918 | 1917             | 872 069    |
| Birmingham                                 | 1917 | 1917             | 3 000 000  |
|                                            | 1918 | 1917             | 5 164 000  |
|                                            | 1919 | 1917             | 10 836 000 |
|                                            | 1920 | 1917             | 15 008 000 |
|                                            | 1921 | 1917             | 2 992 000  |



30

|                                            |      |        |           |
|--------------------------------------------|------|--------|-----------|
| <b>Copper-Nickel 2 milliemes (Fig. 43)</b> |      |        |           |
| Bombay                                     | 1916 | 1916   | 300 000   |
|                                            | 1917 | 1917   | 2 706 413 |
| Birmingham                                 |      | (1916) |           |
|                                            | 1917 | 1917   | 3 000 000 |
|                                            | 1918 | 1917   | 1 752 500 |
|                                            | 1919 | 1917   | 4 247 500 |



31

|                                           |      |      |           |
|-------------------------------------------|------|------|-----------|
| <b>Copper-Nickel 1 Millieme (Fig. 44)</b> |      |      |           |
| Bombay                                    | 1917 | 1917 | 4 002 000 |
| Birmingham                                | 1917 | 1917 | 4 000 000 |
|                                           | 1918 | 1917 | 135 000   |
|                                           | 1919 | 1917 | 5 705 000 |
|                                           | 1920 | 1917 | 2 160 000 |



32

|                                    |      |      |           |
|------------------------------------|------|------|-----------|
| <b>Bronze ½ Millieme (Fig. 45)</b> |      |      |           |
| Calcutta                           | 1917 | 1917 | 4 000 000 |

To Be Continued.



28



29



33



34



35





36



37



38



39



40



41



42



43



44



45

# COINS OF ANCIENT ISRAEL

by David Hendin



## No Coins in the Old Testament

Precious metals were used in trade during the First Temple Period. However, most people — even numismatists — do not realize that the Old Testament references to specific coins are anachronistic because the historians who put the Bible into writing lived in later times, when coins of silver and gold were in use. Thus these writers incorrectly assumed that coins had been used during the earlier periods as well.

The first coins weren't struck until just before 600 B.C. by the Lydians of western Asia Minor.

A statement in the first book of Chronicles, written during the Persian Period (539-333 B.C.E.), after coins had been invented, shows the writer's confusion in describing a transaction that took place in an earlier time. He refers to both coins and weights of metals when discussing the contribution toward the building of King Solomon's Temple:

*And they gave for the service of the house of God of gold five thousand talents and ten thousand darics, and of silver ten thousand talents, and of brass eighteen thousand talents, and of iron a hundred thousand talents. (I Chronicles 29:7)*

In ancient times the relative values of various metals — gold, silver, and copper — were set by general agreement, often based on the price of a piece of livestock. Thus the specific and relative weights of metals were important, and a reasonably accurate system of weights developed.

Different ancient cultures, however, had different weight standards. Hence the Canaanite-Israelite system probably was different from the Mesopotamian system and others. There is some support for

this in the Old Testament, which mentions at least three kinds of shekels:

*And Abraham weighed to Ephron . . . four hundred shekels of silver, current money with the merchant. (Genesis 23:16)*

*This they shall give, every one that passeth among them that are numbered, half a shekel after the shekel of the sanctuary. (Exodus 30:13)*

*He weighed the hair of his head at two hundred shekels, after the king's weight. (II Samuel 14:26)*

The importance of weighing precious metals during a business transaction is stressed many times in the Old Testament:

*And I bought the field that was in Anathoth of Hanamel mine uncle's son and weighed him the money, even seventeen shekels of silver. And I subscribed the deed, and sealed it, and called witnesses, and weighed him the money in the balances. (Jeremiah 32:9-10)*

In ancient times, as today, there were apparently a significant number of scoundrels who figured they could cheat in business transactions by keeping two sets of weights — a light and a heavy — in their bags. One was for selling, the other for buying!

Thus we are warned by the Lord:

*Just balances, just weights, a just ephah (unit of dry measure), and a just hin (unit of liquid measure), shall ye have. (Leviticus 19:36)*

The Prophets, too, expressed repeated concern over the problem of the dishonest merchants and their tricks:

*As for the trafficker, the balances of deceit are in his hand. (Hosea 12:8)*

Continued on Page 30



# Society B'Nee Salem Medal

By DR. URIEL PAUL FEDERBUSH

Recently coming across a hitherto unknown medal issued by the Society B'Nee Salem, I was fascinated by its beauty, its relevance both to the fields of Judaica and Americana, and the unusual English transliteration of the Hebrew *Bnei Shalom*, or Sons of Peace.

The medal itself is irregularly shaped, and has a patriotic motif.

**Obverse:** Superiorly an American eagle, with a loop over its head, wings outstretched, standing on a shield containing the stars and stripes. On the left, an armed American soldier in World War I uniform. On the right, an American sailor similarly clad and armed. In the center, between the figures, a Magen David (Star of David). In *exergue*, on a banner, SOCIETY B'NEE SALEM.

**Reverse:** Raised lettering reading, **Presented by the/Society B'nee Salem/to/Sergt. L. Levy/In Recognition of/Honorable Service/Rendered in the/ World War/1917-1919.** The name of the awardee is engraved. In *exergue* is stamped, DIEGES & CLUST/SOLID GOLD.

The design work is intricate, consisting of leaves to the outside of the figures and about the shield. There are various curved designs at both the superior and inferior borders, and a fine curlicue pattern in the field around the Magen David. The firm Dieges & Clust were active medallists during this period. The identification of the metal, "*Solid Gold*," was in compliance with a Federal law passed in 1906 at the instigation of Tiffany & Co.

Information about the issuing organization was difficult to track down. Finally, the material obtained was sparse and sketchy. It seems that the Society was founded in 1854. A financial report for the year 1882 shows a balance of \$5,101 quite a respectable sum for the period. The Society had a membership of 136 at the time. The report of 1887 records the ownership of burial plots, indicating that the group was a Benevolent Society. In 1914 the Society reincorporated under New York state law, stating that "said Society B'Nee Salem was organized in 1854 for purely beneficial purposes, de-

voted to comforting the sick, aiding the distressed, assisting widows and orphans, and arranging for the burial of the dead."

Its aims were thus in the best Jewish tradition of doing *Mitzvot*, or good deeds.



One of its functions obviously was to issue gold medallions to members who served in the armed forces.

The Society had started on the Lower East Side of New York City, but had moved uptown to 86th Street by 1914. This follows the migration of German-Jewish groups at the time. The officers and trustees of the "Lodge," as they called themselves, had names of German origin such as Lippmann Reinhardt, and Leopold Ullman. The form and spelling of the name of the society seems a Germanism as well.

There is only one kindred organization referred to in the 1900-1901 edition of the *American Jewish Year Book*. This lists an Orthodox Congregation Bnee Scholom (note the different spelling), 630 East 5th Street, which was founded on December 18, 1885, and had the same Secretary as the Society. Thus, interestingly, it seems that the founding of the benevolent Society led to the establishment of the Synagogue, and not conversely which was usually the case.

*I want to express my appreciation to Dr. N. Kaganoff of the American Jewish Historical Society for his gracious assistance.*

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## Ancient Coins of Israel

Continued from Page 28

*Making the ephah small, and the shekel great, and falsifying the balances of deceit. (Amos 8:5)*

*'Shall I be pure with wicked balances, and with a bag of deceitful weights?' (Micah 6:11)*

—The shekel was the most commonly used everyday weight in the days of the Old Testament. According to today's standards, we measure the Old Testament shekel as weighing approximately 11.40 grams. From references in the Old Testament we know it was divided into several fractions:

—The beko, or half shekel:

*A beka a head, that is, half a shekel, after the shekel of the sanctuary. (Exodus 38:26)*

—The pim, or two-thirds of a shekel:

*And the price of the filing was a pim (1 Samuel 13:21)*

—The third-shekel:

*Also we made ordinances for us, to charge ourselves yearly with the third part of a shekel for the service of the house of our god. (Nehemiah 10:33)*

—The quarter shekel, or *rebah*, was suggested as a gift from Saul to Samuel the prophet:

*And the servant answered Saul again, and said: 'Behold, I have in my hand the fourth part of a shekel of silver, that will I give to the man of God, to tell us our way.' (1 Samuel 9:8)*

—The *gerah* was one-twentieth of a shekel. In Akkadian the word *gerah* means "a grain of carob seed," which probably was reference to its tiny size:

*This they shall give, every one that passeth among them that are numbered, half a shekel after the shekel of the sanctuary—the shekel is twenty gerahs—half a shekel for an offering to the lord. (Exodus 30:13)*

Archaeologists have discovered many kinds of ancient weights in Israel, and they serve to confirm what the Bible tells us. Some of the weights actually carry inscriptions, but most of them are blank. One classic type of weight is dome-shaped and carved from stone. If marked, the inscriptions are incised on the top of the dome, and the weights have flat bottoms so they would not roll off the balances.

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# The Jewish Community of Iran Medal

By EDWARD SCHUMAN

**J**EWISH HAVE been living in Iran for 2,000 years, since Cyrus the Great freed Jewish slaves in Babylon and brought them to Iran.

There are about 60,000 Jews living in Iran, the vast majority of them Iranian nationals. They have been subjected to increasing attacks by Moslem extremists, not necessarily on the basis of anti-Semitism but as an outgrowth of a growing suspicion of all foreigners.

For practical reasons, Israeli leaders have tried to keep their anxiety hidden and their public statements cautious and restrained.

The two countries do not have diplomatic ties, but each maintains trade missions in the other's capital. El Al, the Israeli national airline, operated daily service between Tehran and Tel Aviv, and Israel was exporting \$120 million worth of goods a year to Iran.

Now, thousands of Jews have left Iran on tourist visas, presumably intending to return to protect their investments. Relatively few have chosen to immigrate to Israel.

The widespread rioting and civil unrest which has engulfed Teheran and several other Iranian cities illustrates the difficulties encountered in the attempt of a traditional autocratic regime to lift a

traditional society by its bootstraps into the modern age.

The diverse forces now arrayed against the Shah — the Shi'ite clergy, the radical Left, the radicalized university students and the poverty-stricken urban masses who have had no share in Iran's oil riches — are to a large extent the unavoidable by-products of the White Revolution by which the Shah had hoped to bring Iran into the 20th century and to restore her ancient greatness.

It is impossible to comment on the events in Iran without noting the Shah's long-standing role as protector of his country's Jewish community against the fulminations of some of the Shi'ite extremists.

Iranian Jewry obtained equal rights under the constitution of 1960, and this equality had become genuine over the years under the protection of the Shah and his father. This Jewish population is the largest of the North African and Asian communities outside of the State of Israel.

Most Jews are merchants, artisans or employees in services outside the government. In 1960 the Shah publicly confirmed his country's recognition of Israel. He has also declared publicly on several occasions that Israel has the right to exist, and admitted that the two countries maintain economic and commercial ties.

Jews lived in freedom under his rule.

On the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of the Islamic reign of the Shah, the Jewish community of Iran struck a



ED SCHUMAN



medal. The obverse has a head portrait of the Shah. The reverse has a menorah, and the following inscription in Hebrew.

*For the 25th Anniversary of Islamic Reign of Reza Shah Pahlevi, May He Be Exalted. Rosh Hashona 1965 Committee of the Jewish Community of Iran.*

This medal was struck in copper and silver measuring 29 mm. These medals

occasionally turn up so must have had good distribution. There is a large gold medal, measuring 40 mm and it is presumed that this medal was presented to the SHAH. Ironically about a dozen years ago, the writer purchased this heavy gold medal of the Jewish Community of Iran for its then bullion value of seventy dollars. How many more exist remains a mystery.



**Jewish settlements in Iran, 1967. Based on data from E. Spicehandler, Yahadut Iran, Jerusalem, 1970.**



**FRONT**



# The Mogen Dovid that Came Out of the Mosaic

By HERBERT J. KWART

In 1975, Iran issued a new series of modern paper currencies, one of these being the 200 Rials banknote listed in Pick as 105a.

This note has a significant story to unfold.

The obverse of the 200 Rials banknote contains the portrait of Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlave in military uniform with full face facing left and is colored bluegreen.

The reverse side of the banknote contains a picture of a modern monument surrounded by an underprint of 6 pointed stars in a mosaic motif of bluegreen. Upon closer examination one sees three full stars of David plus many partial views of the six-pointed star.

What is startling about this event is that Iran's major religion is Islamic Moslem. How the Star of David design evolved within the mosaic underprinting is still a mystery to the outside world. When the note was issued and the 6-pointed star design was observed by the Iranian populace, it was immediately withdrawn

from circulation. All of the existing notes of the species were destroyed. A new issue was released immediately with an underprint on the reverse outlining 12-pointed stars.

The "Mogen Dovid" note as it is referred to by collectors of paper money found its way into the syngraphic community in small quantities and is getting very difficult to find in grades VF or better.

During the reign of Shah Reza (1932) to the present Shah, the Jewish community in Iran has enjoyed an era of prosperity with little or no anti-Semitism. However the current political situation and the removal of the Shah leave the Iranian Jewish population, some 80,000, in a precarious situation, especially with the new government recognizing the PLO and shutting off the supply of oil to Israel.

As to how the Star of David was engraved on the reverse of the Rial note . . . by a Jew or a sympathizer of the Jewish faith . . . I'll leave this up to your imagination.



BACK

# *A Portrait of a Jewish Hero*

By HARRY FLOWER

JOSEPH TRUMPELDOR was born in Pyatigorsk in 1880 and received an early religious training before being sent to a Russian Municipal School. Since as a Jew, he could not attend high school, he studied dentistry.

In his early youth he was strongly influenced by the philosophy of the collective commune as practiced by some Tolstoyan settlers near his hometown. In his mind, this ideal became intertwined with his concept of Zionism; the establishment of agricultural communes in Eretz Yisroel, which, if necessary, would be defended by armed force.

At 22, he was drafted into the Army and sent to Port Arthur. The training he

was promoted to the rank of a non-commissioned officer, an event almost unheard of. When Port Arthur surrendered, he was transferred to a POW camp in Japan, where, while he worked for the general welfare of all the prisoners, he paid special attention to the Jews amongst them. He organized a group of Jewish soldiers whose aim was to go to Eretz Yisroel and establish an agricultural commune there. When he returned to Russia, he entered the law faculty of the University of St. Petersburg, a privilege granted him only, because of his status as a returning war hero.

In 1911, together with a commune he had organized, Trumpeldor went to Palestine where he worked in various kibbutzim and participated in the defense of Jewish settlements in the Lower Galilee. When World War I broke out, he was deported to Egypt because he refused Ottoman citizenship. There, he established a Legion of Volunteers, which developed into the Zion Mule Corps, a division of the British army. He regarded this as a first step in the establishment of an independent Jewish Military Force in a forthcoming Jewish State. The Corps performed valiantly, Trumpeldor acting as deputy-commander.

After the War he went to London, where he joined Vladimir Jabotinsky in efforts to establish a Jewish Legion among Russian Jews in England, using Zion Mule Corps veterans as a nucleus. Later, he went back to Russia, hoping to persuade the Provisional Russian Government to form Jewish regiments in the Russian army. He hoped they would be sent to the Caucasus, from where they could break thru to Eretz Yisroel to form an active Jewish army. After the October Revolution he received permission to form a Jewish regiment whose prime purpose would be to combat the massacre of Jews in pogroms, but this plan was cancelled when Russia signed the peace treaty with Germany in January of 1918. The regiment was disbanded.



received served him in good stead in later life. While on a dangerous mission in the Russo-Japanese War, he was severely wounded and his left arm had to be amputated. Upon recovery, he asked to be returned to the front, altho he had a right to be demobilized. His request was granted and in a special order of the day he





Memorial to the heroes of Tel Hai (stone monument by the sculptor Melnikov).

In 1919 he returned to Eretz Yisroel where he proposed among other things, the establishment of a single unified labor organization to absorb the new pioneering immigration he envisioned. When news arrived of the attacks on Jewish settlements in the Upper Galilee by Arab rebels, he was asked to organize defense groups. This he did. On March 1st, 1920,



Insignia of the Jewish Brigade. Above: Medal of Ha-Rishon li Yhuda ("the first of Judea"); below: Seven-branched Menorah above the word Kadima ("forward").



Badge of the Zion Mule Corps.

Tel Hai, where he was at the time was attacked by a large number of armed Arabs. In the ensuing battle he received a severe stomach wound that proved fatal. In his honor, some of his friends established a new settlements at the foot of Mount Gilboa and named it Tel Yosef, in his honor. Thus the memory of a distinguished Jew lives on.

# The ALEPH BETH Page

## ...Dedicated to the Beginner

by Edward Janis



**Q.** I would like to put together an uncirculated set of Israel's Trade Coins. How do you recommend that I do this? What are my best sources? Are all the coins available? **E.R., Chicago, Ill.**

**A.** *This is a most advantageous time to start such a project. Because the price of coins is governed by supply and demand, you can find the nucleus of such a collection at bargain prices in today's market.*

The official mint sets whether proof-like issues (1965 and 1966) or specimen sets (1967 to 1971) contain uncirculated trade coins of Israel. Starting in 1972, the sets contain the mintmark of Jerusalem, the "Star of David". Most of these sets can be obtained for 50% of their original issue price. The paradox is that some dealers are asking more for some of the individual coins viz: the one Lira piece than for the entire packaged set!

For the trade coins of the earlier pruta series, I would start with the 16 trade coin type set of 1962 which were all uncirculated coins and contained the 25, 50 and 100 Pruta coins and the silver 250 and 500 coins of 1949. The 18 coin type set of 1963 (M-S 2 Kagan) also contained all uncirculated coins. Remember that this and the preceding were type sets and not date sets. This set included in the Pruta series a 1, 5, three types of 10 (scalloped, round aluminium and anodized aluminum), 25, 50, two types of 100, in steel clad and cupro-nickel, the 250 in both cupro-nickel and silver and the 500 in silver. In addition, in this set we have the half and one lira of 1963 together with the Agora denominations of 1, 5, 10 and 25 of 1963. For the type set collector and the date set collectors this MS-2 has more to offer than the MS-1.

The MS-3 Type Set of 1964 may some day end up to be rarer than the preceding two issues, because this set contained reprocessed circulated coins with a few exceptions. This set contained the uncirculated 250 and 500 pruta pieces in silver. The two pieces were selling for thirty dollars and more when you could still buy the entire type set for less. Dealers dismantled these sets for the two coins. Remember that the mintage of the 2 silver pieces were about 44,000 each and that all the silver pieces did not go into the sets.

I would estimate that 60% or more of these sets were broken up. It could be a real sleeper. I will venture that the day will come when somebody will try to add the missing two silver pieces to the old incomplete sets.

Until recently, the Israeli collector could not see the reasoning of saving the varieties of their trade coinage. In a survey of dealer stocks in October, 1974, Sylvia Haffner found that the Israeli dealers had few of the trade coin issues in BU condition. Most of the dealers had heretofore sold their uncirculated pieces to U.S. collectors and dealers and such issues that are available here like the 50 Prutot with pearl, the 250 Prutot with pearl, the 100 Utrecht made Pruta and the two silver pieces of 250 and 500 Prutot of 1949 and the 25 Prutot of 1949 with pearl were either non-existent or rare in their stocks. You would be surprised if you knew how many of these pieces went back to Israel to fill collector needs.

Although the pinch is on for some of the more exotic issues, there is nothing in the entire series that cannot be acquired from any of those dealers that advertise in the Israel Market Place page



of the AINA club bulletin. Buy only the choicest material that you can afford. If, for example you do use one of the 18 Trade coin sets as a starting point, gradually replace the reprocessed (buffed, whizzed, replated etc.) coins with strictly BU issues.

#### "16 TRADE COINS TYPE SET"

1962

The first type set of Israel's trade coins were issued before the 1/2 and one lira coins were struck in 1963. The coins were all uncirculated and the Prutas contained the 1949 (5709) dates and the Agorots were mixed 1962-63.

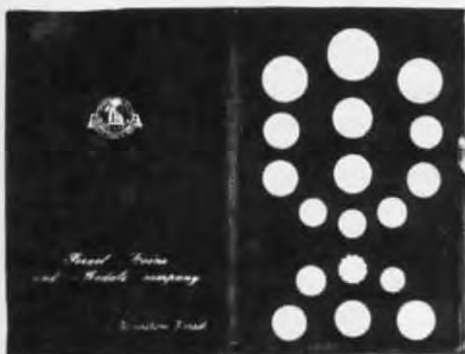
Holder: blue velvet-lined

Size:  $9\frac{1}{2}'' \times 6\frac{1}{2}''$

Pruta: 1, 5, 10 (3), 25, 50, 100 (2),  
250; 250 and 500 silver.

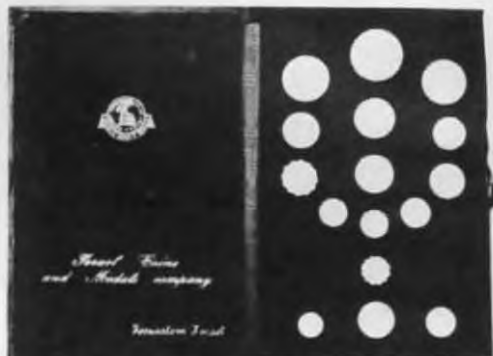
Agora: 1, 5, 10, 25

Mintage: 4,000



The sets are a good starting point. It's later than you think in getting a strictly BU set of trade coins. Start with a type collection. Then, fill out a date collection. Gradually add your varieties.

It's a worthy project. Lots of luck and above all, take your time.



#### "18 TRADE COINS TYPE SET"

1963

The second type set of Israel's trade coins contains the 1/2 and one lira dated 1963. The 25, 50 and 100 Pruta were usually dated 1954 (5714). The coins were all uncirculated.

Holder: blue velvet-lined

Size:  $9\frac{1}{2}'' \times 6\frac{1}{2}''$

Pruta: 1, 5, 10 (3), 35, 50, 100 (2),  
250; 250 and 500 silver.

Agora: 1, 5, 10, 25, 1/2 and 1 lira.

Mintage: 7,000



#### "18 TRADE COINS TYPE SET"

1964

The third type set of Israel's trade coins came housed in a plastic holder with the coins in a removable board. A large percentage of the coins were circulated and had been cleaned. The plastic covering usually comes in a torn condition. The collector has to replace the circulated coins in most instances. The agoras come with assorted dates.

Holder: black or blue plastic

Agora: 1, 5, 10, 25, 1/2 and 1 lira.

Pruta: 1, 5, 10 (3), 25, 50, 100 (2),  
250; 250 and 500 silver.

# ISRAEL'S INDUSTRY MEDALS

## THE DIAMOND MEDAL

This is the first in the series of medals featuring various branches of Israel industry. It is devoted to Israel's largest export industry which has become the world's foremost producer/exporter of polished gem diamonds. The annual value of diamond exports is approximately \$600 million. Founded by diamond experts who immigrated here from the Low Countries in the late 30's, the diamond industry is by far the dominant factor in Israel's overseas trade, representing more than half of total exports from this country.



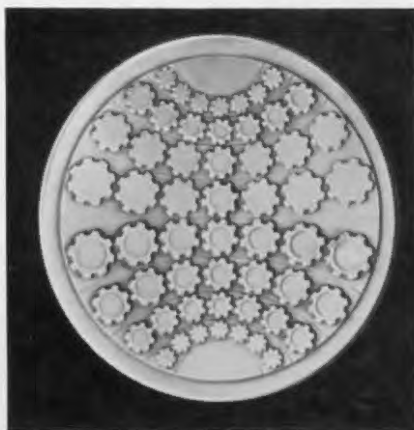
**DIAMOND MEDAL**

Approximately 10,000 workers are employed in 725 diamond plants and workshops. These are centered in Tel Aviv, Ramat-Gan and Netanya. There are also plants in Petah Tikva, B'nai Brak and Jerusalem, as well as in 39 development towns.

More than 2,000 persons also work in commercial service capacities with the diamond export firms, banks, etc. The focus of the Israel diamond trade is the 28-story Diamond Exchange in Ramat-Gan, one of the most modern and comprehensive centers for the international diamond trade, in which more than \$6 million in rough and polished diamonds are traded each working day.

Israel produces 85 per cent of the

world's supply of the popular medium size melee's, as well as a wide range of larger stones. It receives rough stones directly from the Central selling Organization, London, and other sources.



**DIAMOND: REVERSE**

### *Description of the obverse:*

The Diamond Exchange building in Ramat-Gan in the middle against the geometrical background design of a diamond. Round the design runs an inscription in Hebrew and English: "Diamonds — Israel's sparkling export."

## THE FASHION INDUSTRY MEDAL

This is the second in the series of medals featuring various branches of Israel industry.

The fashion industry in Israel and the closely associated textile and leather industries have played a vital role in industrializing development regions and populating them with previously unskilled newcomers. These enterprises provide employment for some 66,000 persons. The majority of these are engaged by almost a thousand clothing and knitting establishments ranging from family workshops to streamlined production enterprises.

The fashion export industry had its beginning with fashion houses that had come from Europe. These soon realized that they had to strive beyond the small and





**FASHION MEDAL**

initially austere domestic market. In 1960 more than 2 million dollars worth of apparel was exported. By 1974 the value of fashions shipped abroad by over a hundred firms of repute approached 100 million dollars.

Fashion exporters proudly display their collections to international buyers at the Tel Aviv Fashion Week and, twice a year, at Israel Sales Weeks in New York. They also exhibit at five European fashion events, including the Paris Pret-a-Porter and sales weeks in Germany in spring and fall. The principal customers of apparel made-in-Israel are the United States, West Germany, France, United Kingdom, Netherlands, Switzerland, Canada, South Africa.

Since 1972 a College of Textile and Fashion Technology graduates annually over a hundred students.

Specialized institutes provide the industry with fashion information, professional services and supervise export quality standards.

The ever changing international fashion scene provides the experienced manufacturers and the new talent attracted to the industry with a challenge that is met by constant upgrading of fashion products through improved design, material and workmanship.

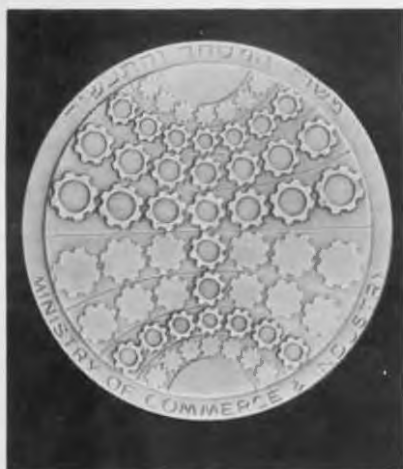
*Description of the obverse:*

In the center is the figure of a woman adorned with a striped shawl, which represents the Menorah. Around the rim are the words Israel Fashion 1975 in English and in Hebrew.

**METAL WORKING MEDAL**

This is the third in the series of medals representing various branches of Israel industry.

The metal working industry had its beginnings in small workshops that served mainly the farming population of the Jewish Yishuv. Productive capacity increased over the years, and in the last decade the industry has developed very rapidly indeed. Once based on hand-tools and small scale equipment, it has turned into an industry rich in capital and expertise, producing a wide range of products for the local market and for export.



**FASHION MEDAL: REVERSE**



**METAL WORKING MEDAL**

The industry comprises a large number of businesses, some of them large-scale, sophisticated concerns with up-to-date equipment, much of it developed and produced in Israel.

The metalworking industry is investing considerable effort and resources in Research and Development. It is this dynamic growth and development that has made the metalworking industry one of basic industries of the Israel economy.



**METAL WORKING: REVERSE**

*Description of the obverse:*

In the center, an anvil — which has symbolized metal working since its beginnings. Thin lines suggest the form of an aeroplane and a press which indicate the achievements of this industry in the country. In the upper half, the wording: "The Israel Metal Working Industry", in Hebrew and English. Below, the date, 1975.

**THE EXPORT MEDAL**

This medal, the fourth in the series dedicated to Israel's industry, features the country's export drive.

In the thirty years since the inception of the State, industry has become the biggest single contributor to the development of Israel's economy and in the reduction of the gap in the balance of payments.

This year, exports have exceeded three billion US dollars compared with \$28 millions exports in 1948, the State's first year, and with \$89 million in 1955, this reflects the extraordinary growth of Israel's economy in the past thirty years.

In 1978, the industrial sector of the Israeli economy will employ more than



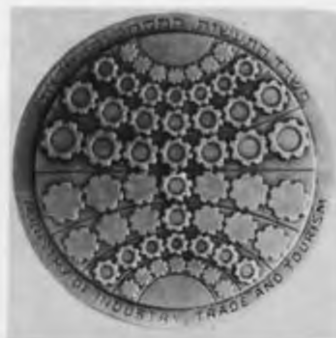
**OBVERSE: EXPORT MEDAL**

300,000 workers and is expected by itself to account for more than three billion dollars worth of goods exported — which will, of course, be substantially supplemented in the balance of trade with the proceeds of agricultural goods and tourism.

The successes so far achieved are the fruit of the joint effort of manufacturers, workers and export traders — to whom the present medal is tribute.

*Description of the obverse:*

Expanding candelabrum, fitting into a globe and symbolizing the growth of Israel's export. The trademark "made in Israel", the date 1948-1978, and the word "export" in English and Hebrew.



**EXPORT: REVERSE**

The reverses of all four medals are similar with minor differences.

*Reverse:*

Seven-branched candlestick fitting into the wheels of world industry, representing Israel's imports and exports. On the rim, the inscription in Hebrew and English: "Ministry of Commerce & Industry".



# Tokens of Hendler's Restaurant In Stanislavov

By SHMUEL MATALON, Tel-Aviv

**W**HEN WE speak of Judaic tokens, in most cases it is tokens of the Holy Land that we have in mind. True, the majority of tokens under this category were in Eretz Israel during the Turkish and British rule. But, I believe we are doing an injustice to the tokens that were used by Jewish institutions and bodies elsewhere.

One such interesting token of the Rothschild family in Paris was described by Franz Frankl in a former issue of *The Shekel*. Another, of the Bombay Bus Company for Jews in Shabat or Jewish Holidays. But there are more, and it is important to bring them forth and describe them, so as to widen our knowledge of this numismatic field in the Diaspora. Unfortunately, in many cases, of communities that do not exist any more.

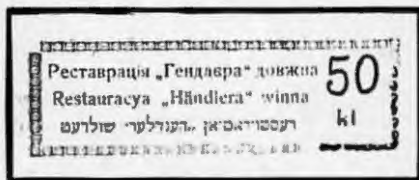
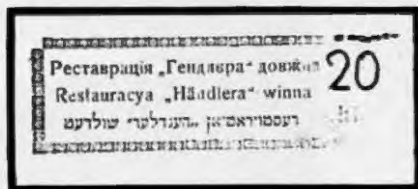
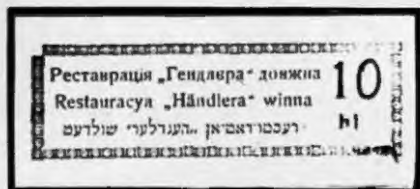
## THE STANISLABOV TOKENS

Stanislavov was a capital in the south-

east of the Ukraine, and since the 17th century contained a large Jewish community. Before World War II there were about 40,000 Jews living there, but most of them unfortunately were annihilated in the holocaust. Today it seems there are only about 2000 Jews in the city.

In Stanislavov, there was a famous Jewish restaurant which was both elegant and Kosher, with typical Jewish food, and a large hall to entertain social events. The restaurant was called "Hendler's", and it issued tokens in three languages: Ukrainian, Polish and Yiddish. The text reads: "Hendler's Restaurant Owes," and the denominations are 10 Hellers, 20 Hellers, and 50 Hellers.

The Stanislavov tokens may well serve as a reminder as to how collecting Jewish tokens brings to our mind and heart another aspect of the history of the Jewish people.



# The Djezzar Mosque At Acre

By Samuel Lachman, Haifa



The Djezzar (also spelled Jazzar) Mosque at Acre, just north of Haifa, Israel, includes a college. It was started by Ahmad Djezzar Pasha about 1800.

World Coins,



The great mosque at Acre, usually called the Djeddar Mosque, was built by Ahmad Djeddar Pasha in 1781, partly with materials brought from places like Caesarea or Tyre.

Ahmad Djeddar, an Albanian, led Turkish land forces who ended the rule of the Beduin sheikh Daher al-Omr at Acre in 1775. Ahmad Djeddar was subsequently appointed as pasha of Acre. The name "Djeddar" means butcher, a name which he got from his cruelty. In 1799 he defended Acre against Napoleon, with the help of British naval units under the command of Admiral Sir Sidney Smith. Ahmad Djeddar Pasha died in 1804, and was buried in a room near the mosque.

Recently a medal of the Djeddar Mosque was found. The medal shows on the obverse a stylized form of the mosque, and on the reverse a crescent.

The inscriptions beginning at top read on the obverse at left (the 'Bismillah'):

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

In the name of God the Compassionate,  
the Merciful

at right:

مسجد الجزار  
في عكا القديمة

The Djeddar Mosque in Old Acre

The reverse reads at left (the 'Kalimah'):

لا اله الا الله

محمد رسول الله

There is no God but God, Muhammad is  
the prophet of God



and at right:

الله الواحد القهار

God the Sole one, the All compelling one

The medal looks like nickel-plated. Diameter is 35 millimeters, weight 14.74 grams. It is thought that this medal was produced sometime during the last 20 years.



# New A.I.N.A. Slide Program Completes 2nd Year of Service

By RAY NOLAN, I.N.S. of Cleveland

The American Israel Numismatic Association, aware of the need for programs to entertain members at meetings, commissioned Ben and Clair Abelson some years ago to produce slide lectures with numismatic themes. The result was five superb productions, complete with slides, scripts and tapes, covering various Israel numismatic subjects. But after an Israel Numismatic Society chapter had experienced these five programs, there was nothing else available to them.

In 1976, A.I.N.A. asked the I.N.S. of Cleveland to assume the responsibility of producing and distributing audio-visual programs for the growing list of Israel Numismatic Societies from Florida to Alaska. By September, 1976, the I.N.S. of Cleveland had produced ten new programs with slides and scripts that could be read by a member of the organization viewing the show. An efficient system of shipping the programs by United Parcel Service and the U.S. Postal Service was developed so that any request for a program could be filled, even on short notice.

Between September, 1976, and November, 1978, 36 organizations including Temple schools and regular coin clubs have made about 170 presentations of A.I.N.A. audio-visual programs.

The I.N.S. of Cleveland is now embarking on its third year of handling the A.I.N.A. audio-visual project and proudly announces the completion of several new programs, in addition to those previously available.

They urgently request that A.I.N.A. members from every chapter make available the many fine programs which they have prepared for presentation at their club meetings. The I.N.S. of Cleveland will assist in photography, script preparation or in any other manner necessary to prepare your program for the A.I.N.A. audio-visual library. However, the Cleveland I.N.S. *must* have the cooperation of the other chapters with their programs if this project is to continue to be as successful as it has been these last two years; *your help is needed.*

Chairman of the Audio-Visual Committee is A.I.N.A. board member Stanley Yulish, with Ray Nolan in charge of ordering and receiving. Richard Wengel is chief photographer, in charge of slide production. And they, together with Sanford Brown, Max Gladstone, Milt Shapiro and Fred Ross, research the various numismatic subjects and prepare the scripts.

The following programs are now available on a first come, first served basis by writing to A.I.N.A. SLIDE LIBRARY, c/o Ray Nolan, 4521 West 160th Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44135, or by calling Ray at (216) 941-7911 in the evenings or (216) 433-7300 during the day.

Two copies of each program are available, but it is suggested that you list three choices when making your request. Please allow sufficient time for shipping and for your own previewing before presentations to your group.





**RAY NOLAN, in charge of slide lecture ordering and distribution since the program's inception.**

#### **A.I.N.A. SLIDE LECTURE SERIES AVAILABLE FROM I.N.S. OF CLEVELAND**

1. Hebrew Dates — Abelsons
2. Coin-Medals of Historical Cities — Abelsons
3. State Medals of Israel — Abelsons
4. 5-Pound Portrait of Israel — Abelsons
5. 10-Pound Portrait of Israel — Abelsons
6. Formation of the Israel Defense Forces — Sanford Brown
7. Paper Money of Israel — Richard Wengel
8. My Favorite Medals — Max Gladstone
9. Numismatic Reflections of Ghetto Lodz  
(an award winning exhibit) — Stanley Yulish
10. Israel's Stamps and Coins — Al Friedberg and Stan Yulish
11. Profile of the Interim Period — Israel from 1948 through 1950  
(an award winning exhibit) — Stanley Yulish
12. Symbols on Coins — Ray Nolan and Henry Bloser
13. Masada — Stan Yulish
14. Judaic Portrait Medals (an award winning exhibit) — Harry Flower
15. Jewish Medals of Interest — Stanley Yulish
16. Judah L. Magnes Museum, Jewish American Hall of Fame, The First Decade —  
Mel Wacks and Fred Ross
17. Trade Coins of Israel — Morty Zerder and Dr. Emanuel Rubin
18. The Modern Maccabees — Milt Shapiro

#### **COMING SOON . . .**

19. Herzl and the Jewish Bank — Stanley Yulish
20. Signatures on Official Issues of Israel's Coins and Medals — Stanley Yulish
21. Israel's Coin Errors and Oddities — Stanley Yulish
22. The Israel Air Force From the Beginning, Numismatically Speaking — Sanford Brown
23. Judaic Propaganda, Pro and Con, on Money — Stan Yulish and Fred Ross

# THREE NEW STATE MEDALS

COMMEMORATING THE NEW  
JERUSALEM SHAARE ZEDAK MEDICAL CENTER



COMMEMORATING THE 60th ANNIVERSARY OF THE HABIMA  
THE NATIONAL THEATRE OF ISRAEL



COMMEMORATING ISRAEL'S FOOD INDUSTRY

